

HOUSE RESOLUTION 120
By Langster

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jennifer Abigail Ramsey
on her outstanding basketball career.

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee and the members of this General Assembly take great pride in the accomplishments of those inspirational athletes who hail from Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, one such athlete is Jennifer Abigail "Abi" Ramsey of Monteagle, who proved herself to be one of the greatest players in the history of the Vanderbilt University women's basketball program; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ramsey's success in the realm of college basketball was definitely foreshadowed by her dominance in Tennessee high school basketball where she led her Shelbyville High School basketball squad to the Tennessee Class AAA State Tournament, winning back to back state championship titles in 2000 and 2001, while being named Most Valuable Player both years and an all-tournament selection for three years; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Abi Ramsey was a 2001 Associated Press All-State selection, a 2001 WBCA Honorable Mention All-American, a 2001 Class AAA Miss Basketball Finalist, and the 2001 *Tennessean* Midstate Player of the Year, in addition to joining Commodore teammate Ashley Earley as a member of the Tennessee All-Star team; and

WHEREAS, recruited to Vanderbilt by then Coach Jim Foster, Abi Ramsey quickly displayed her amazing basketball skills and legendary three-point shot that would eventually establish her as the greatest three-point shooter in the history of the Vanderbilt women's basketball program; and

WHEREAS, challenged by new Head Coach Melanie Balcomb to improve her defensive skills, Abi, through hard work and determination, met the challenge as evidenced by her being

named Most Improved Player at the team awards banquet at the end of the 2002-03 season; and

WHEREAS, Commodore fans will long treasure the memories of Abi's pure, yet deadly, shooting skills as she rained three-pointer after three-pointer down on hapless opponents, her signature rolled up, shoulder-less #20 jersey, and her tenacious defense at the head of Vandy's tremendous match-up zone that shut down many an opposing player; and

WHEREAS, Abi Ramsey's extraordinary basketball skills were showcased many times during her remarkable Vandy career with numerous highlights such as the game against Vermont in her freshman year which saw her come off the bench to hit four consecutive three-point shots in three minutes to give Vandy a 17 point lead and against top-ranked Georgia during her sophomore year when she garnered a career high seven steals, including the final steal that resulted in a foul, with Abi hitting two free throws to win the game with 0.7 seconds remaining; and

WHEREAS, buoyed by the unwavering support of the Commodore Crew and the Commodore faithful during her Junior season, Abi's clutch free throws against Auburn with 5.7 seconds remaining in the SEC Tournament quarterfinals would propel the team onward as they won four games in four days to become SEC Tournament Champions; and

WHEREAS, named Best Defensive Player at the 2004-05 team awards banquet, Abi's Senior season saw her assault on the Vandy record books as she demonstrated the skills that made her the greatest three-point shooter in school history; on January 4, 2005, she broke the legendary Julie Powell's school record of 203 career three-point shots and on January 30, 2005, she hit an astonishing eight 3-pointers against Florida to set the Vanderbilt single game record while tallying a career high 30 points, which earned her SEC Player of the Week honors; and

WHEREAS, Vandy fans and basketball fans across the country will long remember Abi's picture perfect floor length pass to fellow Senior Captain Ashley Earley for a last second lay-up to clinch the victory against favored Kansas State in the NCAA tournament and claim back to back Sweet Sixteen honors; and

WHEREAS, now holding three of the top ten marks for most three-point shots made in a single season by a Commodore, Abi finished her Vandy career as 1st on the all-time charts in

three-point shots made with 252, 1st in three-point shots attempted with 620, 5th all-time in three-point shot percentage at .406, and 21st all-time in scoring with 1,049 points being one of only 25 Commodores to score over 1,000 points in their career; and

WHEREAS, during her years wearing the Commodore Black and Gold, she has helped lead her team to four consecutive NCAA Tournament appearances, back to back Sweet Sixteen appearances, one Elite Eight appearance and two SEC Tournament Championships, in 2002 and 2004; and

WHEREAS, with plans to attend graduate school at Vanderbilt to continue her studies at Peabody within the Human and Organizational Development program, Abi will undoubtedly find herself on the path toward an extraordinary career; and

WHEREAS, on and off the court she enjoys the support of her biggest fans, her loving family: parents, Tim and Susan Ramsey, her sisters, Cathy and Ashley, and her brother, Tom; and

WHEREAS, her success both on the court and off is truly indicative of the highly successful future that awaits Abi Ramsey; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should pay tribute to Abi Ramsey for her remarkable achievements and athletic prowess; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor and congratulate Jennifer Abigail Ramsey on her many achievements and awards, salute her dedication to athletics and academics, and wish her the best in her every future endeavor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.